

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

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**Weather:** All weather stations across Oregon reported precipitation last week. Total inches of precipitation ranged from near trace amounts in Ontario, The Dalles and Bend, to 3.20 inches of precipitation in Crescent City. Overall, the Oregon coast received the most rain last week. Most areas in central and eastern Oregon received less than 0.20 inches. All reporting stations remain below 100 percent of normal for the precipitation season despite recent rains. Most recorded temperatures across Oregon were slightly above average last week. The high temperature recorded was 78 degrees in Redmond and Rome; the low temperature was 16 degrees in Christmas Valley.

**Field Crops:** Another week of cool and wet conditions slowed fieldwork across Oregon. The scattered showers have helped early-seeded small grain crop emergence and growth. Hay crop conditions have also shown improvement from a few weeks ago. Producers were busy last week planting spring crops as weather conditions allowed. Pesticide and fertilizer applications were delayed slightly by the recent precipitation. Soil moisture supplies have improved statewide, but more rain is needed in order to get back to average.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Producers were busy moving livestock into spring pastures and rangeland across the State. Some lowland pastures in western Oregon continued to flood, forcing cattle to be returned to upland or winter pastures. Government permit holders were turning cattle out on Federal land in eastern Oregon. Pastures were providing adequate forage in most areas with supplemental feeding continuing where necessary. Livestock water was a major concern for producers with eastern rangeland. Many ponds are still very short of water and hauling may be necessary. Livestock were reported in excellent condition throughout the State.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nurseries are digging, balling plants with burlap and shipping plants and containers to out-of-state locations. New plants are also being planted. Greenhouses are busy supplying retail outlets with spring plants. Christmas tree growers are finishing up planting of new Christmas trees.

**Vegetables:** Early vegetable plantings were doing fair but could use a bit more sun. Garlic fields looked good across the State. In eastern Oregon potato field work started, including fumigation and dusting. Seed beds were prepared for onions in Klamath County.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Clackamas County plum, prune and cherry bloom continued, but bee activity for fruit pollinizing was restricted. Strawberry and caneberry growth advanced slowly. Washington County caneberries continued to leaf-out. Strawberries were showing early bloom; early variety blueberries were blooming. Filberts were leafing-out, but walnuts were still dormant. The rainy weather in Yamhill County kept growers from spraying their orchards. The bloom period of many fruit trees is progressing very slowly due to cool temperatures. Honeybee flight has been hampered by the cool, windy weather. Some areas of Marion County had potentially damaging frosts during the week. Southern Willamette Valley plum, prune, and peach bloom was complete last week. Cherries and pears were in full bloom. Early apples were starting to bloom. Hazelnut growers need to continue to protect their trees from Eastern Filbert Blight as the rains continue. Unsettled conditions prevailed in the lower Hood River Valley during most of the week with a few good windows for tree fruit pollination. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at full bloom; Red Delicious apple at full pink to first bloom (WSU stages 6 & 7); Bing cherry at full bloom (WSU stage 8); Pinot noir grapes at wool stage (Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 3). Most fruit trees around The Dalles were starting to shed their flower petals, and starting to show leaf growth. Cherry trees in the Dufur area were about two weeks later in their stage of blooming. Night-time temperatures held in the low 30's and low 40's last week. Frost fans were needed in cherry orchards several nights to protect the young fruit set. Cherry pollination weather in Wasco County was poor throughout the entire bloom period. There were a few hours of good pollination weather from time to time, but generally temperatures were below 60 degrees, or the wind was blowing, or it was showering. It is too early to tell how the weather has affected fruit set. There was no cranberry frost recorded in Coos County last week. Jackson County apples were in bloom. Pears were past bloom with most blossoms petals dropping. Days were a bit cool, and nights close to frost levels. Vineyards were beginning to show signs of growth. Still a lot of cover sprays being applied. Josephine County blueberries, pears, plums, and peaches continued to bloom.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 04/10/05**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	10	20	67	3
Subsoil	20	30	50	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 04/10/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley planted	80	48	64	65
Barley emerged	44	34	35	33
Spring wheat planted	83	64	67	72
Spring wheat emerged	35	28	32	35
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.0	4.2	-	-

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 04/10/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	5	22	68	5
Spring wheat	0	17	56	23	4
Barley	1	3	50	39	7
Range and pasture	4	11	35	48	2

**CLACKAMAS:** Grass seed growers sprayed herbicides and fertilized. Nurseries were digging and planting. Greenhouse and nursery operators have been active in providing supplies for the local market as well as outshipments. Christmas tree growers still planting. Cattle and calves on pasture. Livestock are in very good condition. Pastures are providing an adequate supply of forage in most cases. Plums, prunes, and cherries blooming. Nearly daily rainfall curtailed field activity other than some fertilization. Bee activity for fruit pollenizing was restricted. Strawberry and caneberry growth advanced slowly. Early planted vegetables are showing some growth.

**COOS/CURRY:** Abnormally high rainfall amounts the last 2 weeks have caused a late flooding of lowland areas, which persists. Many producers have had to move livestock off bottom pastures and into holding areas or back to upland (winter) pastures. No cranberry frost events were recorded at this location during the week. Overcast conditions prevailing throughout the period. Slightly warmer than previous week with continuing significant precipitation. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Bandon: 1 day, at Brookings-Harbor: 1 day. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 49.5 at Brookings-Harbor to 50.4 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 61.1 at Brookings-Harbor to 66.7 deg F at Bandon, and lows ranged from 40.1 at Brookings-Harbor to 40.9 deg F at Bandon. Precipitation ranged from 2.26" at Bandon to 5.65" at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 18 GDD at Brookings-Harbor to 25 GDD at Bandon. Low temp for Brookings was 40.12 degrees, 1.0 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 61.13 degrees, 4.95 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 3.65 inches over 4 days, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 0.93 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 57.6 inches, 1.11 inches above the 5-year (including drought years) average of 56.94 inches precipitation and 1.22 inches below the historic average (58.82 through March). Low temp for Brandon was 38.46 degrees, 0.3 degrees above the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 66.74 degrees, 2.67 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.43 inches over 4 days compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 0.96 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 39.35 inches, 2.37 inches below the 5-year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004) and 7.88 inches below the historic average. To subscribe to detailed AgriMet weekly reports, contact the Coos County Extension Service Office at (541) 572-5263.

**JACKSON:** Grain crops that have been planted are getting good starts. Lots of rain this week. The wet weather has also helped hay crops, but growth is still behind normal. Alfalfa, pasture, sweet corn, and other vegetables prepared for seeding. Apples are now in bloom. Pears are past bloom with most blossom pedals dropping. Days have been a bit cool, and nights close to frost levels. Still lots of cover sprays being done. Vineyards are beginning to show signs of growth. Disease sprays being applied to stone fruits. Early petal drop sprays and russet control sprays being applied to pears. As of Thursday, only 50 Degree Days accumulated toward first codling moth emergence. Early vegetable plantings are doing fair, but most could use a bit more sun. When we didn't get rain, the days were still mostly cloudy and cool. Lots of flower starts from the greenhouses now for sale; also some early vegetable starts. Nurseries are also quite busy with plants,

both potted and balled/burlap. Pasture grass is getting started, but off to a slow start. Some livestock still getting supplemental feed. Spring calving is well underway. Lots of lambs also in the fields. Cloudy, wet and cool weather this week. One morning the snow level was down to 2000 feet.

**JOSEPHINE:** Appreciable rain this week. There is fresh snow in the hills too. Fertilizer applied in February is showing its work now that there is water to help it along. Weeding, and when possible, spraying herbicides. Animals all look good and there is lots of grass. Blueberries, pears, plums and peaches continue to bloom. Bulbs continue to bloom. Truck gardens are working when they can prepare the soil.

**LANE/LINN/BENTON:** Plum, prune, and peach bloom was complete last week. Cherries and pears were in full bloom. Early apples were starting to bloom. Hazelnuts growers need to continue to protect their trees from Eastern Filbert Blight as the rains continue. Early and greenhouse vegetables available: radishes, shallots, potatoes, garlic and lettuce mixes. Greenhouses are full of new plants. Many nursery markets just starting to grow. Sales depending on the current weather patterns. The majority of nitrogen fertilizer has been applied to grass seed and wheat.

**MARION:** Some spraying and fertilizing being done in between rain storms and showers. Very little soil tillage is possible. Rain showers off and on this week. Recent rains continue to recharge soil profile. Most field crops looking quite good. Some fertilizer applications being made to grass seed fields. Most herbicide applications are completed. Grass crops are growing well. Nursery crops look good and are being shipped. Some areas had a frost during the week. Flowering fruits could have been damaged.

**POLK:** Spring planted crops are looking good. There were thunderstorms in areas during the week; not a consistent pattern of rainfall, but heavy at times. Retention ponds used for irrigation and livestock watering have begun to fill rapidly. Soil moisture is still not adequate, and stream levels are still below normal.

**WASHINGTON:** Winter wheat spraying and fertilizing delayed by rain. Alfalfa growing rapidly. Red clover doing well. Spot spraying in grass fields. Fertilizing grass when weather permits. May need to replant many acres of barley. Caneberries leafing; strawberries showing early bloom; filberts leafing; walnuts still dormant; early varieties blueberries blooming. Garlic growing well; rhubarb maturing; too early for most veggies. Continued movement of potted plants from alternate locations; balling in burlap and shipping large trees; planting new trees. Cows and calves doing well; most off soggy pastures - some pastures under flood water. Preparing farm machinery for use when weather breaks. Irrigation water looks okay for season.

**YAMHILL:** Off-and-on rain has made it possible for farming activities. Most crops are looking good and improving. For some crops only time will tell what the dry winter and heavy rains have done. The rainy weather kept growers out of the orchards for spraying. The bloom period on many tree fruits is progressing very slowly due to cool temperatures. Honeybee flight has been hampered by the cool, windy weather.

## EASTERN OREGON

**HARNEY:** Meadows being drug - harrowing alfalfa. Calving winding down. Branding and early turnout underway. A little rain and snow last week should keep grass growing as soon as the warm weather returns.

**HOOD RIVER:** Unsettled conditions prevailed during most of the week with a few good windows for tree fruit pollination. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at full bloom; Red Delicious apple at full pink to first bloom (WSU stages 6 & 7); Bing cherry at full bloom (WSU stage 8); Pinot noir grapes at wool stage (Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 3).

**JEFFERSON / DESCHUTES / CROOK:** Some cold days and some warm days this week. Showers persisted most of the week, slowing spring planting. Rain and snow in the last week has improved surface soil moisture conditions. Green-up has started at lower elevations but grasses are still dormant at about 4000 ft. elevation. Stock ponds are mostly full and streams are running. Chickpeas and wheat being planted. Winter wheat is looking very good, it has basically been growing since mid-January. Garlic fields look very good. Air temperatures have been fine for activity of Botrytis neck rot of garlic, but too dry. Botrytis should not be a problem unless it stays damp and cloudy. Soil temperatures have been too cold for white rot to develop on roots, but at this time some white rot has directly infected necks and bulbs in the top few inches of soil. Winter grain mites on grass hay and pastures are being taken care of with Mustang Max this spring (from Section 18 – Emergency Exemption.) Mustang Max can be used up to May 1 in Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, and Wasco counties.

**KLAMATH COUNTY:** Mixed rain and snow continues in Klamath County. Moisture not sufficient, but has caused some delays in spring work. Spring land prep tillage underway. Very limited planting activity so far. Potato field work included fumigation & dusting. Onion seed beds were prepared. Pastures beginning to grow slowly. Most stockmen still feeding hay. Calving & lambing continues.

**LAKE:** Received some rain and snow during the week. Government permittees have begun turning out onto their spring pasture allotments--feed appears to be good at the present time. The major concern is livestock water--water hauling may be necessary.

**MALHEUR:** Cool weather last week slowed things down a little bit. Irrigation districts are beginning to release water to charge their systems. Scattered showers and wind were the dominant weather conditions. Frost or near frost most nights. Most range conditions good. Showers have helped. More rain last week combined with nice temps later in the week helped grass growth. Field preparation, fertilizing, and small grain

planting going on. Many spring crops are planted. Still some sugarbeets and onions to go in. Potato planting started in early fields.

**MORROW:** Very dry over the winter and early spring. Received ½ inch of rain this week, but need more to make-up for lack of snow.

**SHERMAN:** Spring field work was in full swing. Fruit trees along the river were done blossoming, about two weeks earlier than usual. Spring pasture being used sparingly. Cool temps and short rainfall has not provided usual forage. Fall planted small grains look very good now. Spring planted small grains are just emerging, or at the one to two leaf stage. Wheat is in good condition for this time of year under given conditions. If we continue at the low levels of precipitation (we're running about 46% of normal), we could have one ugly summer. Bull tour on April 14 will be big draw again.

**UMATILLA:** Moisture over the weekend continued to improve the winter wheat crop. Spring seeding of cereals is finishing up in the dryland areas of the County. Potatoes over 50% planted.

**WALLOWA:** Continued to receive some moisture this past week, which has helped the fall wheat in the dryland area. Spring wheat is being planted earlier than normal due to the drier conditions. Still not very much water in ponds for livestock. Snowpack is at 56% and snow is still falling up there.

**WASCO:** Normal spring weather prevailed most of the week. Light showers fell Tuesday morning and Sunday evening. Field work was active for five days. Spring wheat planting was nearly complete by week's end. Moist top soil from recent rains was beneficial for spring crop germination. Winter wheat is looking quite good and slowly putting on growth. More rain is needed in the soil profile to keep wheat crops in good condition. Alfalfa growth was slow due to near freezing nights and cool daytime temperatures. Most fruit trees around The Dalles are starting to shed their flower petals, and starting to show leaf growth. Cherry trees in the Dufur area are about two weeks later in their stage of blooming. Night-time temperatures held in the low 30's and low 40's. Frost fans were needed in cherry orchards several nights to protect the young fruit set. Pollination weather for cherries was very poor throughout the entire bloom period. There were a few hours of good pollination weather from time to time, but generally temperatures were below 60 F, the wind was blowing, or it was showering. It is too early to tell for certain how the weather has affected fruit set. Cattle are feeding on normal pasture grasses. A few cattlemen were branding, ear marking, and vaccinating their early calves. Hilly pastures are developing slowly.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: April 10, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)**

Station	Air temperature <sup>1</sup>				Growing <sup>2</sup> Degree days		Last week precip. <sup>3</sup>			Season cum. Precipitation <sup>4</sup>				
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days	
COASTAL AREAS														
Astoria/Clatsop	38	64	49	+2	4	-3	0.83	-0.39	5	45.17	-10.78	81	126	
Bandon <sup>5</sup>	38	67	50	+3	9	+2	1.43	0.24	5	44.87	-6.07	88	115	
Crescent City	40	60	49	-1	4	-17	3.20	1.90	4	43.05	-14.18	75	91	
Florence	37	70	50	+2	8	+1	1.51	0.06	5	49.09	-16.14	75	114	
Tillamook	34	65	48	+2	6	-1	1.15	-0.48	3	52.20	-22.14	70	122	
WILLAMETTE VALLEY														
Aurora <sup>5</sup>	35	66	49	+1	7	-7	0.64	-0.07	5	21.63	-12.38	64	111	
Corvallis	34	66	51	+4	16	+3	1.02	0.33	4	15.39	-21.16	42	84	
Detroit Lake <sup>5</sup>	33	67	46	+5	4	+0	1.63	0.46	6	24.10	-33.38	42	60	
Eugene	33	64	49	-2	6	-8	1.03	0.18	4	19.48	-23.08	46	97	
Hillsboro	32	65	48	-1	6	-8	0.59	0.00	6	18.66	-13.19	59	109	
McMinnville	32	63	48	-1	5	-9	0.52	-0.18	5	17.39	-20.38	46	108	
Portland	38	68	51	+2	13	-1	0.68	0.06	6	18.56	-11.13	63	105	
Salem	33	64	49	+2	8	-3	0.22	-0.43	1	17.95	-15.37	54	97	
SW VALLEYS														
Grants Pass	34	72	48	-4	9	-16	1.57	1.06	4	22.39	-5.34	81	78	
Medford	33	76	50	+0	13	-8	0.24	-0.05	4	12.54	-3.32	79	62	
Roseburg	34	68	50	-1	10	-11	0.96	0.36	4	20.58	-7.55	73	82	
NORTH CENTRAL														
Condon	29	65	43	+1	4	-3	0.45	0.17	2	6.49	-3.38	66	56	
Echo <sup>5</sup>	31	72	51	+2	15	-4	0.06	-0.15	1	3.44	-3.41	50	70	
Heppner	31	75	48	+2	13	+2	0.49	0.16	3	5.73	-3.99	59	67	
Hermiston	33	74	53	+3	21	+2	0.29	0.08	1	3.40	-3.41	50	43	
John Day	25	71	45	+2	15	+6	0.11	-0.17	3	6.22	-1.92	76	71	
Madras <sup>5</sup>	26	68	44	-2	3	-11	0.12	-0.09	4	4.47	-3.04	60	68	
Moro	26	69	44	-1	7	+0	0.06	-0.15	3	5.11	-3.42	60	69	
Parkdale <sup>5</sup>	30	64	44	-4	2	-12	0.20	-0.24	5	15.99	-11.53	58	99	
Pendleton	32	77	50	+3	17	+2	0.31	0.03	2	4.72	-4.19	53	61	
The Dalles	32	71	50	+5	13	+4	0.02	-0.19	1	5.87	-4.15	59	67	
SOUTH CENTRAL														
Agency Lake <sup>5</sup>	30	61	42	+3	-	-4	0.34	0.11	4	8.88	-3.90	69	56	
Bend	25	74	43	+2	5	-2	0.03	-0.11	3	7.94	-0.71	92	49	
Burns	21	72	42	+2	2	-5	0.22	0.07	3	6.64	-0.05	99	61	
Christmas Valley <sup>5</sup>	16	72	39	-5	2	-8	0.07	-0.10	3	5.39	-3.51	61	55	
Klamath Falls	20	67	42	-2	2	-5	0.15	-0.06	3	7.03	-3.57	66	53	
Klamath Falls <sup>5</sup>	20	66	40	-3	1	-6	0.08	-0.13	3	6.58	-4.02	62	78	
Lakeview	19	72	43	+3	8	+1	0.05	-0.23	2	3.10	-8.22	27	34	
Lorella <sup>5</sup>	19	69	42	-2	4	-3	0.09	-0.12	5	7.88	-2.72	74	80	
Redmond	23	78	44	+2	6	-1	0.28	0.14	3	5.16	-0.61	89	51	
Worden <sup>5</sup>	25	67	42	-2	3	-4	0.07	-0.14	3	6.41	-4.19	60	69	
NORTHEAST														
Baker City	23	67	44	+2	11	+4	0.08	-0.08	1	5.29	-0.82	87	60	
Joseph	26	67	41	+3	-	-3	0.41	-0.01	3	9.93	-8.08	55	82	
La Grande	28	70	48	+4	18	+9	0.33	-0.02	2	5.84	-6.06	49	59	
Prairie City <sup>5</sup>	26	66	43	+7	6	+3	0.13	-0.22	1	6.55	-8.74	43	49	
Union	28	69	46	+2	8	+1	0.10	-0.18	2	7.48	-0.71	91	67	
SOUTHEAST														
Ontario	30	75	49	+1	16	-3	0.14	0.00	1	3.51	-3.66	49	35	
Rome	20	78	45	+1	11	+3	0.07	-0.10	2	4.72	-0.27	95	45	

<sup>1</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>2</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>3</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. <sup>4</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. <sup>5</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).  
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.  
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